

August 26, 1974

Dr. William Shockley
202 McCullough
Stanford, California 94305

Dear Dr. Shockley:

My wife Anne and I are looking forward with much pleasure and real anticipation to your visit with us on Saturday August 31 and Sunday September 1. My son James and I will meet you and your party at noon at the Whitesburg air strip. (Kentucky is on Eastern Standard Time, not Daylight Saving Time.) We will bring you to our home for lunch. We can spend the afternoon in conversation and have dinner at The Inn at Wise, Virginia at about 7:00 PM. The Drs. Hutchins have agreed to come up from Berea and spend the night as our guests. They expect to arrive about noon. We can continue our conversation at my home on Sunday for as long as your party can remain.

Mr. Columbus Sexton, Assistant Superintendent of our local schools has given the standard-required intelligence tests to local school children for many years. He is keenly interested in the genetic decline I have written about and has agreed to join us. In a recent conversation he pointed out that almost all IQ test results will now run from a range of 80 to 90 points.

On April 18 I sent a letter to the Editor of Intellectual Digest. It was sparked by Dr. Conrad Lorenz' article on Genetic Decay. I think you may find my observations of interest and a copy is enclosed. Copies are being forwarded to the other gentlemen listed at the end of this letter.

I was in the Kentucky legislature in the '50s and in the 1960 session. In those years I believed very strongly that our educational shortcomings in the Kentucky mountains could be overcome with new and consolidated schools and better paid and better educated teachers. I was a leader in the prolonged fight to establish the state's Minimum Foundation plan for schools. Since then Kentucky has poured

Dr. William Shockley -- page two -- August 26, 1974

enormous sums into the task of upgrading the mountain schools. Consolidation is now virtually complete and new libraries and new laboratories are commonplace. The "emergency" teacher who lacks a degree has almost disappeared from the scene. At the same time, the general environment has been improved immensely. The federal government has poured out lavish sums for food, repairing homes, welfare and pension grants of numerous kinds. To a large extent the "War on Poverty" centered here in east Kentucky. And yet, IQ scores have been declining steadily and the Appalachian poverty that was so widely written about in the '60s has persisted.

The poverty that is associated with our region is accompanied by passivity and dependence and I see no present hope for allaying it. I have come full circle in my thinking and have reluctantly concluded that the poverty that called into being the Appalachian Regional Commission is largely genetic in origin and is largely irreducible.

I have read with tremendous interest the papers and books you have sent to me and am much indebted to both of you for them. The Jensen article is simply tremendous.

When I read the things you have written and then read the almost rabid comments that have been made about you, I am impelled as an American citizen, to offer my apologies for my fellow citizens. It seems that most of your critics criticize before they read what you have said or written.

In conclusion I will say that I know absolutely nothing about the issue of white vs. black intelligence. We have few blacks in this area and practically all my observations have dealt with whites. There is no doubt in my mind at the present time that our welfare programs and general humanitarian principles and practices have contrived to effectively repeal the first law of nature so that young and old alike survive to procreate. The dull, dependent and welfare-supported are outbreeding the intelligent and the ambitious. This has, in my opinion, planted a deadly genetic time bomb in our society.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Harry M. Caudill

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Dr. William Shockley -- page three -- August 26, 1974

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